

IOWA'S REPORT CARD:

It's Time to Return to Greatness



IOWA EDUCATION SUMMIT



Ask a student what is wrong with education today. They'll tell you it's **not** that schools are no longer what they used to be. It's that schools are **exactly** what they used to be.

Nowhere is this more evident than in Iowa.

For much of the past century, Iowa was the center of educational excellence and a model for classroom innovation.

But in recent years, Iowa rested on its laurels, assuming what worked in the past would work in the future. As a result, little changed. It is one reason **Iowa has moved from being a national leader to the national average.**

Now is the time for Iowa to return to greatness when it comes to teaching our children. But first, we must know where we stand today.

From National LEADER to National AVERAGE

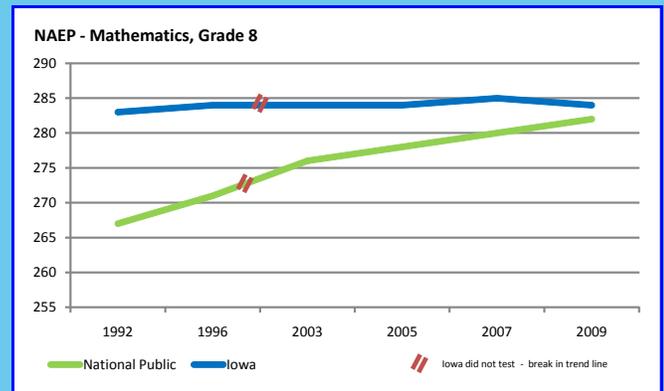
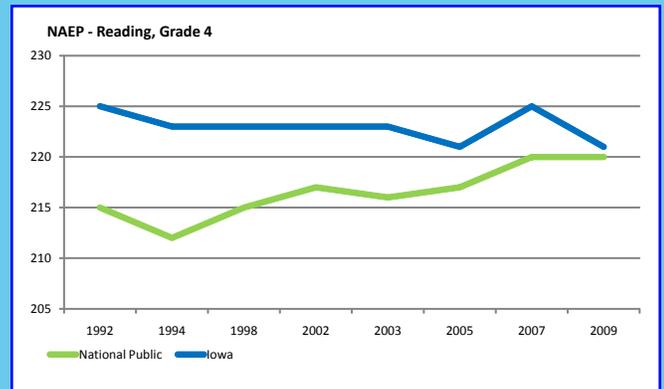
It's time again for Iowa to be a leader. For example, in the past, Iowa students were consistently at or near the top of the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP), also known as the Nation's Report Card.

But in recent years, Iowa has moved from being a national leader to the national average, partly due to declining results but largely because of gains made in other states.

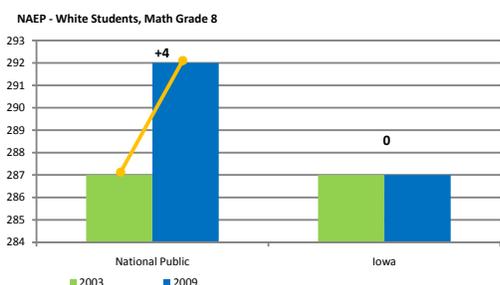
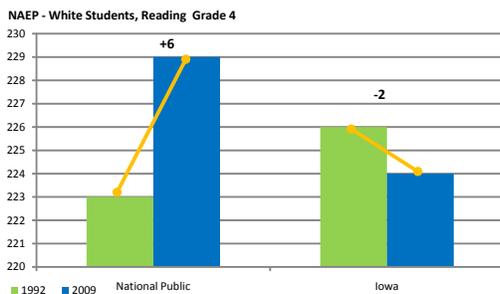
In 1992, no place was significantly higher than Iowa on NAEP 8th grade math results. By 2009, 16 states or jurisdictions were significantly higher.

Today, on reading tests for 4th grade and math tests for 8th grade, Iowa is barely ahead of the national average. In fact, 16 states or jurisdictions are significantly higher than Iowa on the 8th grade NAEP math exam; **in 1992, no state was higher than Iowa.**

If a picture is worth a thousand words, the story told by the two charts at the right is clear: Iowa has remained stagnant while much of the nation is moving ahead.



IT'S NOT JUST THE "ACHIEVEMENT GAP"



Two things are true. First, Iowa today is not the same as it was 10 or 20 years ago; we are more urban and less rural. Second, the achievement gap among minority and low-income students is real, and it cannot be ignored.

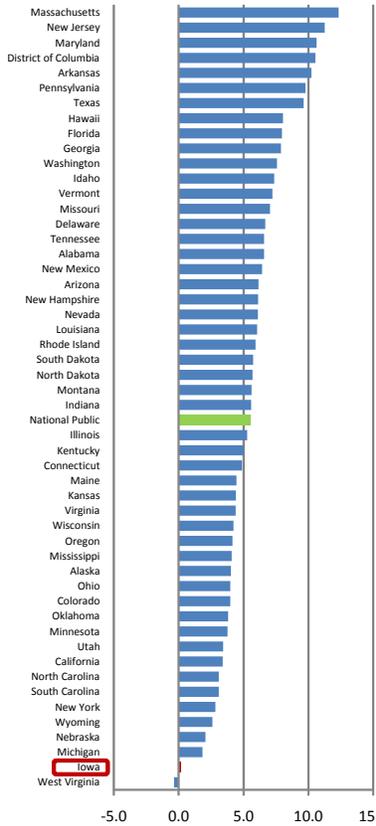
But those factors alone do not explain Iowa's decline.

In fact, Iowa's white students have seen no growth — and in some case have declined — on NAEP in recent years. At the same time, white students nationally have shown steady academic progress.

The two charts at left show how white students in Iowa and across the nation compare on NAEP results.

IOWA LAGS NATION IN GROWTH

Change in NAEP Mathematics
Grade 8 2003 to 2009



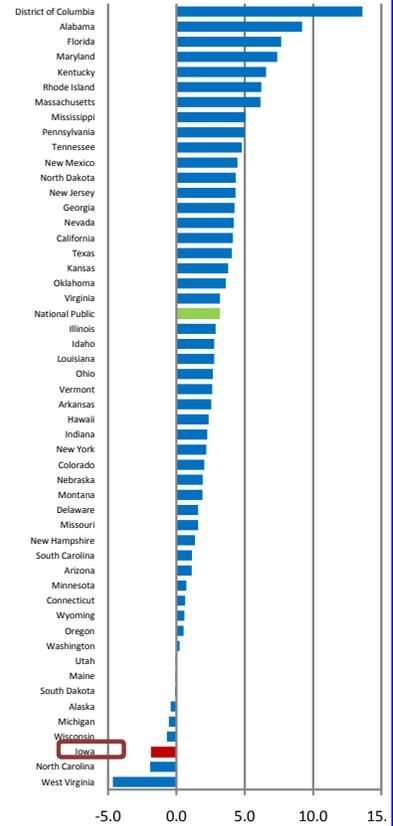
Over the past six years, Iowa test results on NAEP have remained flat or declined.

As these two charts show, nearly every state in the nation, along with the District of Columbia, has outpaced Iowa when it comes to student improvements on NAEP.

As a result of this lack of growth, Iowa has slid to the middle of the pack while much of the nation has caught or surpassed us.

Only one state—West Virginia—has had less student growth than Iowa on the NAEP math exam.

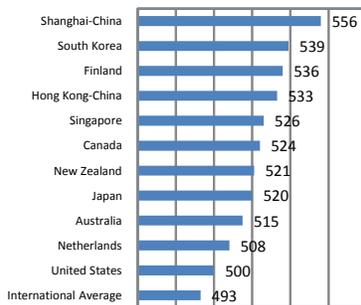
Change in NAEP Reading
Grade 4 2003 to 2009



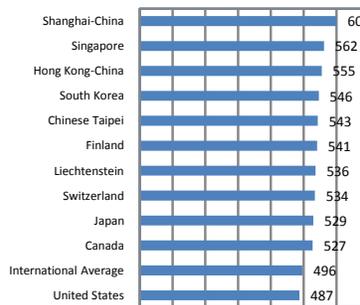
Competing on a Global Stage

The Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) tests 15-year-olds' skills in reading, mathematics, and science. More than 60 jurisdictions participate world-wide. Below are the top 10 results, the international average and the U.S. results. To compete globally and return to greatness in education, the nation—and Iowa—must find new ways to help every student succeed in school.

Top 10 PISA 2009, Reading



Top 10 PISA 2009, Math



Top 10 PISA 2009, Science

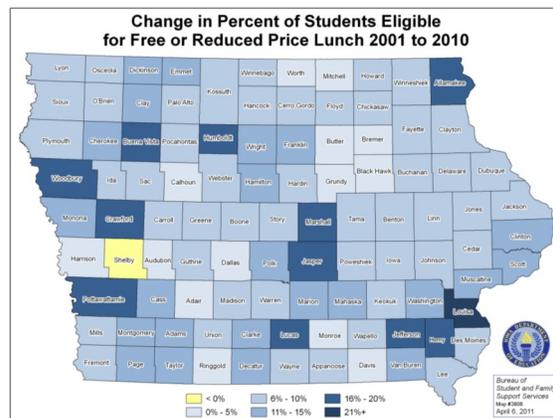
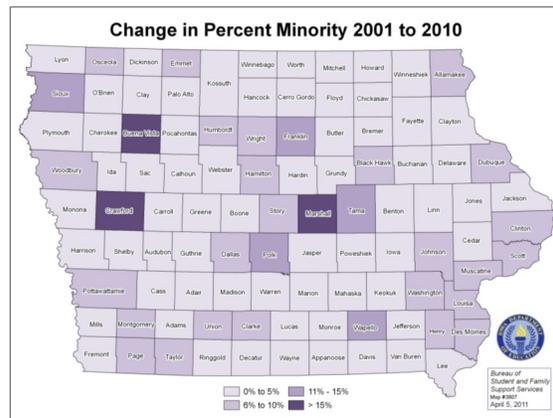
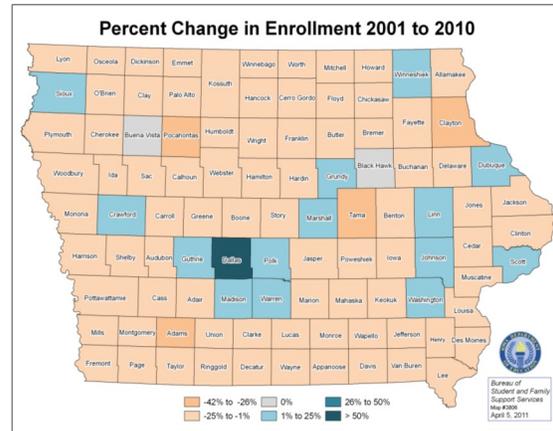


Iowa Has Changed. Iowa Will Change.

Iowa today is different than it was 10 or 20 years ago. It will be different 10 or 20 years from now.

As we look at ways to improve education, we need to recognize these changes and consider how to best serve an ever-changing population of students.

For example, much of Iowa is seeing an increase in low-income students. What will that mean for our schools? Some districts are seeing significant increases in enrollment while most are facing major declines. How will that impact the delivery of education?



IOWA AT A GLANCE - 2010-11

Race & Ethnicity

White: 81.5%
 Hispanic: 8.5%
 Black: 5.1%
 Asian/Pacific: 2.2%
 Native: 0.5%
 Multi-racial: 2.2%

Districts & Schools

Districts: 359
 Schools: 1,436
 Charters: 9
 Teachers: 33,916
 Per-pupil expenditure: \$9,455*

* Figure is for 2009-10



Iowa Education Summit

The Iowa Education Summit is an opportunity to put our state on the path to again being the nation's education leader. Held in Des Moines on July 25-26 and featuring top education experts and advocates—including Secretary of Education Arne Duncan—it will be a chance to share information and ideas so we can work together to support our children. To learn more, visit iowaeducation.iowa.gov and follow the #IAEDSummit hash tag on Twitter.